



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
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WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU AUTHORIZES TRANSITIONAL MOBILE SUPPORT FOR CERTAIN PROVIDERS PARTICIPATING IN THE BRINGING PUERTO RICO TOGETHER FUND AND THE CONNECT USVI FUND

WC Docket Nos. 18-143, 10-90

In this Public Notice, the Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) authorizes high-cost mobile support funding for certain eligible facilities-based mobile providers that elected to receive transitional support as part of the Bringing Puerto Rico Together Fund and Connect USVI Fund.¹ Transitional support payments shall begin the month after the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) disburses the provider's final Stage 2 mobile support payment.

In the *PR-USVI Transitional Support Order*, the Federal Communications Commission (Commission) made available transitional support to current recipients of Stage 2 high-cost mobile support in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands to strengthen and harden 4G LTE and 5G-NR networks.² As the Commission explained in the *PR-USVI Transitional Support Order*, transitional support could last for up to 24 months.³ Transitional support recipients will receive 50% of their current Stage 2 mobile support for the first 12 months of transitional support, and 25% of their current Stage 2 mobile support for the next 12 months of transitional support.⁴

On May 5, 2023, the Bureau released a Public Notice announcing May 22, 2023 as the deadline for providers to elect to receive transitional support.⁵ Pursuant to the direction in the *PR-USVI Transitional Support Order*, a total of four⁶ mobile providers elected to receive transitional support in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Each provider committed to meeting the requirements set forth in the *PR-USVI Transitional Support Order*.⁷ At this time, the Bureau authorizes each provider to receive

¹ *The Uniendo a Puerto Rico Fund and the Connect USVI Fund*, WC Docket Nos. 18-143, 10-90, Report and Order and Order on Review, FCC 23-32, at 13, paras. 35-36 (Apr. 19, 2023) (*PR-USVI Transitional Support Order*).

² *Id.* at 2, para. 2.

³ *Id.* at 7, para. 19.

⁴ *Id.* at 8-9, para. 23.

⁵ *The Uniendo a Puerto Rico Fund and the Connect USVI Fund*, WC Docket Nos. 18-143, 10-90, Public Notice, DA 23-363 (WCB May 5, 2023) (*Transitional Support Election Public Notice*).

⁶ Letters from Carla Framil Ferran, General Counsel, Liberty Mobile Puerto Rico and Liberty Mobile USVI, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, WC Docket No. 18-143, (filed May 8, 2023); Letter from Jorge Martel, Vice President, General Manager – Puerto Rico, T-Mobile, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, WC Docket No. 18-143, (filed May 17, 2023); Letter from Francisco J. Silva, Secretary and General Counsel, Puerto Rico Telephone Company, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, WC Docket No. 18-143, (filed May 19, 2023); Letter from Shannon Temple, Compliance Manager, Vitelcom Cellular, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, WC Docket No. 18-143, (filed May 22, 2023) (Viya Wireless and Choice Communications Election Letter).

transitional support as set forth in the *PR-USVI Transitional Support Order*.⁸ We direct USAC to disburse the allocated funding to the authorized ETCs identified in Attachment A of this Public Notice, consistent with the *PR-USVI Transitional Support Order*.

As provided in the *PR-USVI Transitional Support Order*, all Eligible Telecommunications Carriers (ETCs) receiving transitional mobile support are subject to ongoing oversight and must comply with annual reporting and certification requirements.⁹ We also remind transitional support recipients that have not already submitted their Disaster Response and Recovery Plans that those Plans must be submitted, or transitional support may be withheld.¹⁰ Transitional support recipients also must use the support “to improve the redundancy and resiliency of facilities for 4G LTE or better technologies, including the maintenance of backup power systems for such networks,”¹¹ comply with the existing Stage 2 performance and reporting requirements,¹² and submit network security reports.¹³

For additional information on this proceeding, contact Nathan Eagan (Nathan.Eagan@fcc.gov) or Dangkhua Nguyen (Dangkhua.Nguyen@fcc.gov) of the Wireline Competition Bureau, Telecommunications Access Policy Division.

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⁷ Liberty Mobile elected to receive support in both Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

⁸ *PR-USVI Transitional Support Order* at 8-9, para. 23.

⁹ *Id.* at 11-13, paras. 31-34.

¹⁰ *Id.* at 11-12, 17, paras. 32, 49 & n.129; 47 CFR § 54.1524(a) (providing that Disaster Response and Recovery Plans must be submitted to the Bureau for approval by July 1, 2023).

¹¹ *PR-USVI Transitional Support Order* at 10, para. 27.

¹² *Id.* at 11-12, paras. 31-32.

¹³ *Id.* at 12-13, paras. 33-34.

ATTACHMENT A

**Uniendo a Puerto Rico Fund and Connect USVI Fund
Transitional Support Allocations**

Uniendo a Puerto Rico Fund:

Provider	Total Support: Months 1-12	Total Monthly Support: Months 1-12	Total Support: Months 13-24	Total Monthly Support: Months 13-24
Liberty Mobile	\$ 16,301,648	\$ 1,358,470.67	\$ 8,150,824	\$ 679,235.33
PRTC	\$ 12,761,527	\$ 1,063,461.58	\$ 6,380,763	\$ 531,730.25
T-Mobile	\$ 13,336,825	\$ 1,111,402.08	\$ 6,668,413	\$ 555,701.42

Connect USVI Fund:

Provider	Total Support: Months 1-12	Total Monthly Support: Months 1-12	Total Support: Months 13-24	Total Monthly Support: Months 13-24
Liberty Mobile	\$ 665,631	\$ 55,469.25	\$ 332,816	\$ 27,735.66
Choice Communications	\$ 50,915	\$ 4,242.92	\$ 25,457.5	\$ 2,121.25
Vitelcom Cellular	\$ 16,787.72	\$ 1,398.98	\$8,393.86	\$699.49